

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 ARA-10 EA-09 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 EB-07
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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EGEN, UNGA, ECOSOC
SUBJ: 31ST UNGA: SECOND COMMITTEE ADOPTION OF PHILIPPINE
RESOLUTION ON TRANSFER OF REAL RESOURCES

REF: (A) UN DOCUMENT A/C.2/31/L.49/REV. 2;
(B) STATE 298006;
(C) STATE 293158;
(D) STATE 302264

1. SUMMARY: THE PHILIPPINE RESOLUTION ON THE TRANSFER
OF RESOURCES WAS ADOPTED BY THE SECOND COMMITTEE BY A VOTE
OF 74-1(US)-19. SEVERAL DELEGATIONS MADE EXPLANATIONS OF
THEIR VOTE. END SUMMARY.

2. ON DECEMBER 13 THE SECOND COMMITTEE ADOPTED THE RESOLU-
TION IN REF A ON THE TRANSFER OF REAL RESOURCES WITH ONE
AMENDMENT. THE CHANGE OCCURRED IN PREAMBULAR PARAGRAPH 3,
WHERE THE WORDS "AS WELL AS BY THE LEVELS OF ASSISTANCE"
WERE DELETED. THE VOTE WAS 74-1(US)-19 (NINE EASTERN EUROPEANS,
THE EC-9 EXCEPT FOR THE NETHERLANDS AND DENMARK, WHO
BOTH VOTED YES AND LUXEMBOURG NOT PRESENT; ALSO ABSTAINING
WERE JAPAN, SPAIN, ICELAND, AND FINLAND).

3. IN THE U.S. EXPLANATION OF VOTE, AMBASSADOR MYERSON
RENEWED OUR COMMITMENT TO EFFECTIVELY INCREASE OFFICIAL
DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE (ODA). HE STATED, HOWEVER, THAT
THE SPECIFIC METHODS OF ODA INCREMENT ARE A MATTER FOR
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DONOR COUNTRIES TO DECIDE, IN KEEPING WITH THEIR OWN CONSTI-

TUTIONAL AND BUDGETARY PROCEDURES. WHILE RE-EMPHASIZING THAT THE U.S. HAS NOT ACCEPTED THE TARGET OF 0.7 PER CENT GNP FOR ODA, AMBASSADOR MYERSON SAID THE U.S. IS WILLING TO STUDY THE REPORT OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL ON RESOURCE TRANSFER. THE U.S. CANNOT, HOWEVER, IMPLICITLY ENDORSE ANY SPECIFIC RECOMMENDATIONS THE REPORT MIGHT CONTAIN, INCLUDING THAT OF A DEVELOPMENT TAX.

4. OF THE WESTERN COUNTRIES WHO ABSTAINED , TWO (THE UK AND JAPAN) EXPLAINED THEIR VOTE PRIMARILY ON OPPOSITION TO THE ODA TARGET, WHILE FOUR (FRG, FRANCE, ITALY, AND SPAIN) STRESSED THEIR RESERVATIONS ON A DEVELOPMENT TAX. SEVEN WESTERN COUNTRIES (AUSTRIA, AUSTRALIA, CANADA, DENMARK, THE NETHERLANDS, NEW ZEALAND, AND SWEDEN), WHILE VOTING IN FAVOR OF THE RESOLUTION, EXPRESSED STRONG RESERVATIONS OVER A DEVELOPMENT TAX.

5. BULGARIA, ON BEHALF OF THE EASTERN EUROPEANS (EXCEPT ROMANIA), EXPLAINED THEIR ABSTENTION ON THE GROUNDS THAT THE SECRETARY GENERAL'S REPORT ON RESOURCE TRANSFER CANNOT BE EXTENDED TO THE SOCIALIST-LDC RELATIONSHIP.

6. THE LARGE NUMBER OF COUNTRIES NOT PRESENT (32) WAS MAINLY DUE TO THE RELATIVELY EARLY HOUR OF THE VOTE (11:00 A.M.).
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